

Claims 38-44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. The above claim amendment is entered in response to the rejections and is particularly responsive thereto. Reconsideration is requested.

A substitute Title is above proposed in response to the requirement in the Office Action.

Independent claim 38 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Sasaki et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,034,804. The rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Amended independent claim 38 recites:

An image processing system, comprising:

(a) memory means for storing an image signal outputted from image pickup means, said memory means capable of being attached to and detached from said system;

(b) reproducing means for reproducing the image signal stored by the memory means; and

(c) producing means for producing reference information representing a reference for a predetermined processing on the image signal on the basis of the image signal reproduced by said reproducing means.

Amended independent claim 38 is directed to an image signal being outputted from image pickup means which is stored in memory means which is detachable and attachable, the image signal stored in memory means being reproduced, and producing means producing reference information which is a reference for applying a predetermined processing on the image signal on the basis of the image signal reproduced by reproducing means.

The present claimed invention, thus, makes it possible not only to utilize effectively a recording medium having a predetermined capacity for recording the image signal but also to reproduce an image of high quality because the predetermined processing can be done on the basis of the reference information formed on the basis of the reproduced image signal. for 18

The Sasaki et al. reference, however, merely discloses that reference information, such as WB information, is stored in a memory together with an image signal at the time of image pickup, that the reference information is reproduced together with the image signal from the recording medium at the time of reproduction and that the image signal is controlled on the basis of the reproduced reference information.

Such fails to disclose or suggest that only the image signal is stored in the memory and that reference information for predetermined processing is formed on the basis of the image signal reproduced from the recording medium. Rather the Sasaki et al. reference discloses that not only is the image signal stored in the memory but also the reference information is stored in the memory. Further, the reference discloses that the reference information is formed before it is stored in the memory. Such does not disclose or suggest the image processing system, as claimed in amended independent claim 38.

Accordingly, independent claim 38 is submitted as being patentable based upon the Sasaki et al. reference failing to

disclose or suggest the express content of the claim within the meaning of Section 102.

Reliance is placed on In re Fine, 5 U.S.P.Q. 2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and Ex parte Kochan, 131 U.S.P.Q. 204 (Bd. App. 1960) for allowance of the dependent claims, since they differ in scope from parent independent claim 38 which is submitted as patentable.

Patentability of the claims is believed to have been established. Accordingly, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, except for the filing of formal drawings.

If the Examiner believes that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application, a request is made that the Examiner telephone applicants' counsel at (212) 682-9640.

Respectfully submitted,



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